Forest and Wildlife Resources

Chapter 2 · Geography

Reading Guide · Glossary · Comprehension · Practice Questions · 10 Puzzles

NCERT Companion Workbook · Based on "Contemporary India II, Geography, NCERT Class X"

Name: _____

Class & Section: _____

School: _____

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Chapter Overview

This chapter looks at why India's plant and animal diversity is worth protecting, and how human pressure has pushed many species toward extinction. It explains how forest land is classified into reserved, protected and unclassed categories, and how each is managed differently. The chapter also shows, through examples from across the country, that government law and local community action have both played a part in successful conservation.

Reading & Study Guide

Section	What to Focus On
Flora and Fauna in India	Notice how living things depend on each other for survival.
Conservation of Forest and Wildlife in India	See what problems made a national protection law necessary.
Types and Distribution of Forest and Wildlife Resources	Compare how reserved, protected and unclassed forests are managed.
Community and Conservation	Track how villagers, not just the government, have protected forests.
Sacred Groves and Local Belief	Notice how tradition and religion have preserved patches of forest.

Key Terms Glossary

Term	What It Means
BIODIVERSITY	Wide variety of living species found within an ecosystem
HABITAT	Natural home and living space of an organism
EXTINCTION	Complete disappearance of a species from the earth
POACHING	Illegal hunting or capture of protected wild animals
SANCTUARY	Protected area set aside to safeguard wild animals
RESERVED	Forest category considered most valuable for conservation
PROTECTED	Forest land shielded by law from further depletion
UNCLASSED	Forest and wasteland managed by government and private owners
CONSERVATION	Deliberate protection of species and the habitats they need
ENDANGERED	Species facing a serious risk of extinction
ECOSYSTEM	Web of interdependence linking living beings and

	environment
SPECIES	Group of organisms capable of interbreeding
HANGUL	Kashmir stag given legal protection from hunting
GHARIAL	Fish-eating crocodile species found in Indian rivers
RHINOCEROS	Large horned mammal protected under wildlife law
CHINKARA	Indian gazelle protected alongside blackbuck and nilgai
BUSTARD	Large ground bird, also called the godawan
GROVE	Untouched patch of forest preserved through local belief
CHIPKO	Himalayan movement that resisted logging by embracing trunks
DEGRADED	Forest land whose quality has been damaged by overuse
BIOTYPES	Naturally occurring groups of organisms sharing habitat traits
TIGER	Apex predator whose decline prompted a major conservation project
FLORA	Collective term for a region's plant life
FAUNA	Collective term for a region's animal life
WILDLIFE	Wild animals living in their natural habitat

Comprehension Questions

Q1. Why is biodiversity important to human survival, according to the chapter?

Q2. What led to the introduction of the Wildlife Protection Act in 1972?

Q3. How do reserved, protected and unclassed forests differ from each other?

Q4. What threats brought the tiger population close to extinction by the 1970s?

Q5. How did the villagers of Sariska use the law to resist mining?

Q6. What is Joint Forest Management and how does it benefit local communities?

Q7. How have sacred groves helped conserve biodiversity?

Q8. What lesson does the chapter draw from both environmental destruction and its reversal in India?

Short-Answer Practice (Worked Examples)

Q1. Which act gave legal protection to India's endangered wildlife species?

Q2. Name the campaign launched in 1973 to protect India's tiger population.

Q3. Which movement in the Himalayas is known for stopping tree felling through community action?

Q4. In which state did villagers declare over a thousand hectares of forest a protected Sonchuri?

Q5. When was Joint Forest Management formally introduced in India, and by which state?

Objective Practice

A. Multiple Choice Questions

Circle the correct option.

1. Which conservation strategy does NOT directly involve community participation?

a) Joint forest management

b) Beej Bachao Andolan

c) Chipko Movement

d) Demarcation of wildlife sanctuaries

2. In which year was Project Tiger launched?

a) 1968

b) 1972

c) 1973

d) 1980

3. In which year was the Wildlife Protection Act implemented?

a) 1968

b) 1972

c) 1980

d) 1986

4. Which forest category is regarded as most valuable for conservation?

a) Reserved forests

b) Protected forests

c) Unclassed forests

d) Community forests

5. Which state has the largest area under permanent forests?

a) Kerala

b) Madhya Pradesh

c) Assam

d) Odisha

6. The Chipko Movement is most closely associated with which region?

a) The Himalayas

b) The Deccan plateau

c) The Thar desert

d) The Western Ghats

7. Joint Forest Management formally began with a resolution passed by which state?

a) Rajasthan

b) Kerala

c) Odisha

d) Assam

8. The Sariska Tiger Reserve, where villagers resisted mining, is located in which state?

a) Madhya Pradesh

b) Rajasthan

c) Karnataka

d) Assam

9. Which tree species are worshipped by the Mundas and Santhals of Chota Nagpur?

a) Peepal and banyan

b) Mahua and kadamba

c) Tamarind and mango

d) Neem and mahua

10. The great Indian bustard is also known by which local name?

a) Chinkara

b) Hangul

c) Godawan

d) Gharial

B. True or False

1. Reserved forests make up more than half of India's total forest land.
2. Unclassed forests are found mostly in the desert regions of Rajasthan.
3. Project Tiger was launched to protect only tigers and no other species.
4. The Bishnoi villages of Rajasthan are known for protecting blackbuck and other animals.
5. Sacred groves allow unrestricted human interference with the forest patch.
6. Joint Forest Management depends on cooperation between forest departments and local institutions.
7. Madhya Pradesh has the smallest share of permanent forest area among Indian states.
8. Butterflies and plants have also been added to India's list of protected species.

C. Match the Following

Column A	Column B
1. Reserved forests	a) Tiger reserve where villagers resisted mining
2. Protected forests	b) Most valuable category for conservation
3. Unclassed forests	c) Community resistance to deforestation in the Himalayas

4. Project Tiger	d) Managed by both government and private owners
5. Chipko Movement	e) Campaign launched in 1973 to save tigers
6. Joint Forest Management	f) Shielded by law from further depletion
7. Sacred grove	g) Local institutions restore degraded forest land
8. Sariska	h) Forest patch preserved through religious belief

Higher-Order Thinking (HOTS) Questions

Q1. The chapter shows both government-led and community-led conservation succeeding in different places. What conditions might make community-led conservation more effective than government control in some regions?

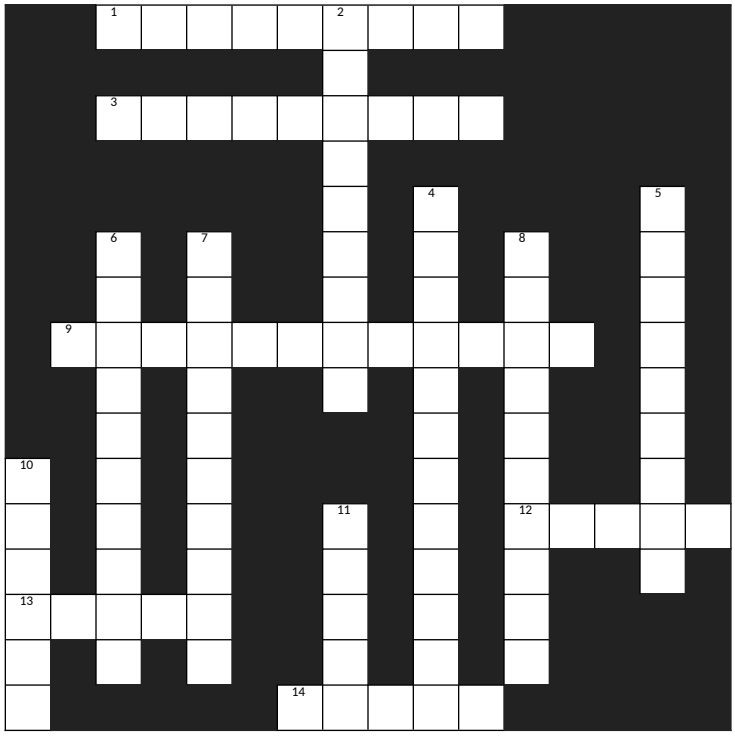
Q2. Why might a plan to save a single endangered species, like the tiger, end up protecting many other unrelated species as well?

Q3. Sacred groves have survived for centuries through religious belief rather than law. What risk might this conservation method face as social attitudes change over generations?

Q4. Compare the incentives that make Joint Forest Management work with the incentives behind the Sariska villagers' independent protection effort.

Puzzle Pack -- 10 Puzzles for This Chapter

1. Crossword



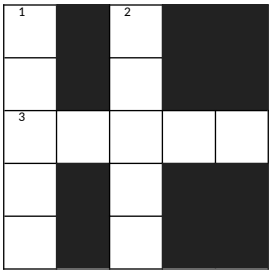
ACROSS

1. Protected area set aside to safeguard wild animals
3. Forest land shielded by law from further depletion
9. Wide variety of living species found within an ecosystem
12. Apex predator whose decline prompted a major conservation project
13. Untouched patch of forest preserved through local belief
14. Collective term for a region's animal life

DOWN

2. Forest and wasteland managed by government and private owners
4. Deliberate protection of species and the habitats they need
5. Web of interdependence linking living beings and environment
6. Large horned mammal protected under wildlife law
7. Species facing a serious risk of extinction
8. Complete disappearance of a species from the earth
10. Kashmir stag given legal protection from hunting
11. Collective term for a region's plant life

2. Mini Crossword



ACROSS

3. Untouched patch of forest preserved through local belief

DOWN

1. Apex predator whose decline prompted a major conservation project
2. Collective term for a region's plant life

3. Word Search

D	B	X	U	L	E	D	E	S	S	A	L	C	N	U
E	C	O	N	S	E	R	V	A	T	I	O	N	D	P
F	R	H	I	N	O	C	E	R	O	S	Z	A	E	R
I	G	F	T	X	F	Z	Y	C	B	R	Y	R	D	O
L	N	R	O	S	F	E	T	P	U	D	T	A	A	T
D	I	L	S	A	G	C	I	E	S	E	T	K	R	E
L	H	A	E	N	Q	O	S	X	T	R	T	N	G	C
I	C	I	P	C	R	S	R	T	A	E	A	I	E	T
W	A	R	Y	T	E	Y	E	I	R	G	T	H	D	E
T	O	A	T	U	S	S	V	N	D	N	I	C	O	D
I	P	H	O	A	E	T	I	C	F	A	B	N	K	G
G	I	G	I	R	R	E	D	T	L	D	A	A	P	R
E	J	L	B	Y	V	M	O	I	O	N	H	C	I	O
R	H	E	R	N	E	X	I	O	R	E	Y	X	H	V
F	A	U	N	A	D	O	B	N	A	V	B	V	C	E

Find: BIODIVERSITY · BIOTYPES · BUSTARD · CHINKARA · CHIPKO · CONSERVATION · DEGRADED · ECOSYSTEM · ENDANGERED · EXTINCTION · FAUNA · FLORA · GHARIAL · GROVE · HABITAT · POACHING · PROTECTED · RESERVED · RHINOCEROS · SANCTUARY · TIGER · UNCLASSED · WILDLIFE

4. Cryptogram

Each letter was replaced by another. Crack the code.

PKXXAGUCUQW NGR ENFW CKBQCMQV IVKCQPC UGRUN'W OKVQWCW NGR WIQPUQW.

5. Caesar Coded Message

Every letter is shifted by the same amount. Find the shift.

JSVIWX ERH AMPHPMJI VIWSYVGIW. GSQQYRMXMIW ERH PEAW XSKIXLIV TVSXIGX MRHME'W JSVIWXW ERH WTIGMIW.

6. Word Scramble

Unscramble each set of letters using the clue.

1. DEEGRDDA -- Forest land whose quality has been damaged by overuse
2. RRNEHSOCOI -- Large horned mammal protected under wildlife law
3. TTPCEREDO -- Forest land shielded by law from further depletion
4. ETSIOYBP -- Naturally occurring groups of organisms sharing habitat traits
5. RLOFA -- Collective term for a region's plant life
6. FIDWLLEI -- Wild animals living in their natural habitat
7. EPCIESS -- Group of organisms capable of interbreeding
8. GNUAHL -- Kashmir stag given legal protection from hunting
9. GLIARAH -- Fish-eating crocodile species found in Indian rivers
10. COIKHP -- Himalayan movement that resisted logging by embracing trunks

7. Acrostic

The highlighted letters spell a theme.

W _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ Wild animals living in their natural habitat

I _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ Wide variety of living species found within an ecosystem

L _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ Forest and wasteland managed by government and private owners

D _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ Forest land whose quality has been damaged by overuse

L _ _ _ _ _ _ Kashmir stag given legal protection from hunting

I _ _ _ _ _ _ _ Natural home and living space of an organism

F _ _ _ _ _ Collective term for a region's plant life

E _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ Complete disappearance of a species from the earth

8. Match the Pairs

Match Column A with Column B.

Column A	Column B
A. WILDLIFE	1. Wild animals living in their natural habitat
B. POACHING	2. Protected area set aside to safeguard wild animals
C. HABITAT	3. Natural home and living space of an organism
D. CONSERVATION	4. Himalayan movement that resisted logging by embracing trunks
E. CHINKARA	5. Large horned mammal protected under wildlife law
F. RHINOCEROS	6. Indian gazelle protected alongside blackbuck and nilgai
G. SANCTUARY	7. Deliberate protection of species and the habitats they need

H. CHIPKO	8. Illegal hunting or capture of protected wild animals

9. Fill in the Blanks

Fill each blank.

1. The web of interdependence linking living beings and their surroundings is an _____.
2. The collective plant life of a region is referred to as its _____.
3. A forest patch left untouched due to religious belief is called a sacred _____.
4. The Kashmir stag, also called the _____, received special legal protection.
5. A protected area set aside to safeguard wild animals is called a _____.
6. Complete disappearance of a species from the earth is called _____.
7. Species at serious risk of dying out are described as _____.
8. The illegal hunting of protected wild animals is known as _____.

10. Odd One Out

Circle the item that does not belong.

1. Unclassed forest Sacred grove Protected forest Reserved forest
2. Tiger Mahua Rhinoceros Hangul
3. Beej Bachao Andolan Poaching Chipko Movement Joint Forest Management
4. Habitat Ecosystem Extinction Biodiversity